

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

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FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH 0251

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

UNCLAS JEC PARIS 08361

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PFOR, VS, VN

SUBJECT: PUBLIC STATEMENT BY ACTING HEAD OF GVN

DELEGATION TO PARIS BILATERALS

1. THE TEXT BELOW IS AN INFORMAL USDEL TRANSLATION,
FROM THE ORIGINAL FRENCH, OF A STATEMENT ISSUED APRIL 2
BY MR. NGUYEN XUAN PHONG, THE ACTING HEAD OF THE GVN
DELEGATION TO THE LA CELLE ST. CLOUD TALKS.

BEGIN TEXT

2. THE COMMUNIST SIDE IS NOW INDULGING IN A VAST
PROPAGANDA OPERATION TO MAKE WORLD OPINION BELIEVE
THAT, IN THE CITIES NEWLY OCCUPIED BY THE NORTH
VIETNAMESE INVASION ARMY, THE POPULATION HAS WELCOMED
THESE INVADERS AS "LIBERATORS", THAT ORDER HAS BEEN
RESTORED THERE, AND THAT ACTIVITY PROCEEDS NORMALLY
AGAIN, WHILE EVERYDAY EVENTS CLEARLY SHOW THE CONTRARY.

3. IT IS KNOWN THAT HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF INHABITANTS
OF THE HIGHLANDS AND 90 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION OF
HUE HAVE THROWN THEMSELVES DISTRACTEDLY ON THE ROADS
TO ESCAPE THE ADVANCE OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE DIVISIONS.
AS FOR THOSE WHO ARE STILL BLOCKED IN DANANG, THEY

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STILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO FLEE TOWARD THE SOUTH, SEEKING

BY ALL MEANS TO REACH THE SHIPS WAITING OFFSHORE TO
TAKE THEM.

4. FACED WITH THE SUFFERINGS OF ALL THIS POPULATION,
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM HAS APPEALED
TO INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY. IT IS NOT ONLY A
QUESTION OF BRINGING MATERIAL AID TO THE REFUGEES,
BUT ALSO OF AVOIDING COLLECTIVE MASSACRES AS AT HUE IN
1968. THE FIRST ACCOUNTS OF EYE WITNESSES SURVIVING
THE HIGHLANDS AND CENTRAL VIETNAM SPEAK OF SUCH
MASSACRES PERPETRATED BY THE COMMUNIST TROOPS, ALREADY
MAKING THOUSANDS OF VICTIMS, ESPECIALLY AMONG CIVIL
SERVANTS AND OFFICERS OF THE RVN AS WELL AS LOCAL
ELECTED OFFICIALS. CONSEQUENTLY IT IS ALSO A QUESTION
OF SEEING THAT THE COMMUNIST SIDE DOES NOT KEEP IN
THE OCCUPIED CITIES THOSE WHO WISH TO REJOIN THE
GOVERNMENT ZONES.

5. WE HOPE THAT OUR APPEAL TO INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY
WILL BE WIDELY HEARD. END TEXT.
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